5

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for causing a television to display a reminder message previously entered by a user and stored into a handheld device or another device having memory. The user uses a keyboard on the handheld device to enter reminder information into the handheld device, which may be a remote control electronic device. The entered reminder information is stored and transmitted at the appropriate time for display on the television which generates a visual text message signal superimposed on a portion of the television's normal programming.